

USSN 10/827,096
Response to Restriction Requirement
January 21, 2005
Page 4 of 4

REMARKS

In the Official Action of December 21, 2004, the Examiner has required restriction to one of the following groups of claims:

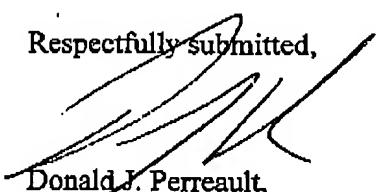
- I. Claims 1-18 drawn to a pivoted jaw tool; and
- II. Claims 19-20 drawn to a method of removing a staple.

Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, to prosecute the claims of Group II, i.e. claims 19-20.

To facilitate prosecution, claims 1-18 have been cancelled without prejudice. These claims may be prosecuted in one or more divisional applications. Applicants have added new claims 21-25, which depend directly or ultimately from claim 19.

No fees are believed to be due. In the event there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge them (or credit any overpayment) to our Deposit Account No. 50-2121.

Respectfully submitted,



Donald J. Perreault,
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 40,126
Grossman, Tucker, Perreault & Pflieger, PLLC
55 South Commercial Street
Manchester, NH 03101
Phone: (603)668-6560